

Message Text

PAGE 01 JIDDA 05122 200523Z

17 15
ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /031 W
----- 036040

P R 200445Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5481
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JIDDA 5122

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SA, SY, IS
SUBJECT: SYRIANS AFFIRM THEIR TREATMENT OF PRISONERS
HAS BEEN CORRECT

REF: (A) JIDDA 4792; (B) JIDDA 4793

1. MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OMAR SAQQAF TOLD AMBASSADOR AKINS NOV. 19 (UPON SAQQAF'S RETURN FROM 10-DAY TOUR OF ARAB CAPITALS -- SEPTTEL) THAT WHILE IN DAMASCUS ON NOV. 10 HE HAD AGAIN RAISED WITH PRESIDENT HAFIZ AL-ASSAD ALLEGATIONS THAT SYRIANS WERE TORTURING AND MISTREATING ISRAELI POW'S. ASSAD REPLIED THAT WHILE ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE EXCESSES WERE UNDOUBTEDLY COMMITTED BY SOLDIERS ON BOTH SIDES. (ASSAD CLAIMED ISRAELIS HAD MACHINE-GUNNED 30 MOROCCAN SOLDIERS WHO CAUGHT IN A TRENCH.) BUT HE ASSURED SAQQAF HE HAD ORDERED THAT ALL PRISONERS WERE TO BE BROUGHT BACK ALIVE AND UNHARMED, AND ALTHOUGH HE HAD NOT PERSONALLY BEEN ABLE TO CONFIRM OR DENY EACH ATROCITY STORY BY A VISIT TO THE SCENE, HE BELIEVED -- ON THE WHOLE -- HIS ORDERS HAD BEEN OBEYED AND THAT PRISONERS WERE BEING WELL-TREATED.

2. THE AMBASSADOR THANKED SAYYID OMAR FOR HIS CONTINUED SENSITIVITY AND ATTENTION TO A MATTER THAT COULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON PROSPECTS FOR A
SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 05122 200523Z

PEACE CONFERENCE.
AKINS

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 11 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, PRISONERS WELFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973JIDDA05122
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: P750023-0880
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731166/abqcefff.tel
Line Count: 55
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: (A) JIDDA 4792; (B) JIDDA 4793
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Jan-2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <16-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYRIANS AFFIRM THEIR TREATMENT OF PRISONERS HAS BEEN CORRECT
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, SA, SY, IS
To: STATE INFO BEIRUT
TEL AVIV
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005